

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

To shoot a moving image, a CPU 14 drives the CCD2 by switching its driving mode between an omission readout mode and a summation readout mode. As the signal charge of a plurality of pixels are summed up and used in the summation readout mode, the summation readout offers an increased sensitivity and thereby enables the shooting with high image quality in low-light conditions. The omission readout mode reduces smear. The summation readout mode calls for reading out to the vertical transfer paths all the red pixel signal charges of the two-color filters aligned along each vertical transfer path. Then, while charge readout voltages are applied to a specific system or systems of a plurality of charge readout electrode systems, vertical transfer is performed so that pixels of a like color are summed up on each vertical transfer path. Thereafter, the charges of the green pixels are read to the vertical transfer paths in such a manner as not to be mixed with the red signal charges. By thus combining vertical transfer with selective readout, pixels of the respective same colors are summed up either on the vertical transfer paths or the horizontal transfer path. The invention improves the image quality and performance of an image capturing apparatus using a CCD which is capable of both capturing still images and capturing moving images.

10003352.022702